HIGH SCHOOL AND UNIVERSITY
MATRICULATION EXAMINATIONS BOARD

DEPARTMENTAL EXAMINATIONS, 1939

ENGLISH 4

COMPOSITION

Time—2½ hours.

Note to Candidate: One mark is deducted for each error in spelling in the answer papers. Deductions are also made for errors in grammar.

Values

3 **1.** State *three* methods of introducing characters into a story.

2 **2.** The following sentences are loose, periodic, or balanced. Write the adjective that best describes each, indicating the particular sentence by letter:

(*a*) He was malevolent really because he was uncivilized, and he was uncivilized because he was ill-favoured.

(*b*) He entered breathless into the aerial chamber of the great bell, gazed at her for a moment with doting fondness, then spoke softly to her and patted her as you would a good steed before starting on a long journey.

(*c*) For Love is like a tree; it grows of itself, strikes its roots deep into our being, and often continues to flourish and keep green over a heart in ruins.

(*d*) More than once you have followed from bush to bush, beside some running brook, on a sunny day, some lovely dragon-fly , all iridescent, blue and green, darting hither and thither, kissing the tip of every spray.

3 **3.** Explain each of the following terms to show that you know the precise meaning of each. Use complete sentences.

solecism; a priori reasoning; articulation; metaphor; redundancy; transition.

3 **4.** Criticise favourably or adversely the following examples of reasoning:

(*a*) The whale is a fish, for it swims in the ocean.

(*b*) This boy is unfit to be president as he is said to have cheated on his last examination.

(*c*) Stamps are cheaper under a Union administration, showing that this government reduces the cost of living.

Values

(*d*) A straight line is the shortest distance between two points. Your line has a bend in it, therefore it does not cover the minimum distance.

(*e*) An education is unnecessary as most people agree that college graduates do not usually succeed in life.

(*f*) People who drive more than sixty miles an hour are a menace. Jones admits he does this habitually, therefore his driving license should be revoked.

3 **5.** Replace each of the *italicized* phrases in the following sentences by one word that expresses the same meaning:

(*a*) His proven negligence makes him *worthy of blame.*

(*b*) His *tediously long* discourse put us all to sleep.

(*c*) The posts should be sunk *at right angles to the plane of the horizon.*

(*d*) We *made friendly protests* but to no avail.

(*e*) I am *constitutionally disinclined* to hard work.

(*f*) He was a man of *changing, wavering and uncertain* opinion.

2 **6.** Criticise the wording of the following propositions for debate so as to indicate clearly the error in each:

(*a*) Resolved that examinations should not be held in June.

(*b*) Resolved that high schools should be maintained at public expense.

(*c*) Resolved that the railways should be amalgamated and that neither of the names now used should be employed to designate the reorganized railway.

(*d*) Resolved that the horse is better than the cow.

3 **7.** Indicate the word wrongly used in each of the following sentences and substitute the correct one:

(*a*) You can offer no acceptable alibi for losing the package.

(*b*) The minister made a house to house visitation to make enquiries regarding the epidemic.

(*c*) Our continual blows on the door produced no appreciable affect.

(*d*) I consider the librarian the best posted man in our highly erudite population.

(*e*) Banff is supplied with beautiful drinking water which has its origin in mountain springs.

(*f*) I shall notify you of what transpires at the meeting.

3 **8.** What are *three* rules to be observed in using dialogue in narration?

Values

3 **9.** For what *three* purposes may gesture be used in oral composition?

3 **10.** Using vivid and striking details that appeal to the senses, fill in the blanks to make complete sentences of the following:

(*a*) I like the smell of.....

(*b*) The audience was enchanted by the sound of .....

(*c*) The tang of the air pleases me when.....

2 **11.** Write good similes to complete each of the following sentences:

(*a*) He made motions with his mouth.....

(*b*) I saw the bill collector flit away.....

(*c*) She was as merry.....

(*d*) He was as flustered.....

10 **12.** Write a carefully worded paragraph of about half a page on *one* of the following topic sentences, being sure to use the particular type of paragraph development called for:

(*a*) He was an unusually striking individual. (Detail)

(*b*) What thoughts and actions followed the drinking of that potion I shall now proceed to relate. (Cause and effect)

(*c*) His adherence to tradition was his most unusual trait. (Repetition)

(*d*) There are many good examples of successful failures. (Examples or illustration)

(*e*) No two individuals could be more unlike. (Contrast)

14 **13.** In not more than one page write an abstract of *one* of the following:

Either { One of Shakespeare's plays
A long narrative poem
A novel prescribed for any of the literature courses you have taken. }

Or { Write a book review, in not more than three or four paragraphs, of some book in the supplementary or free reading course for any high school grade. }

1 **14.** (*a*) Distinguish between denotation and connotation as applied to the subject of diction.

2 (*b*) "Oh, what a clammy hand his was! as ghostly to the touch as to the sight! I rubbed mine afterwards, to warm it, and to rub his off. It was such an uncomfortable hand that, when I went to my room, it was still cold and wet upon my memory. Leaning out of the window, and seeing one of the faces on the beam-ends looking at me sideways, I fancied it was he got up there somehow, and shut him out in a hurry."

Pick out *four* words or phrases in the above that in your opinion have a high degree of connotation.

[OVER]

Values

7 (*c*) For the purpose of making the following paragraph produce a more definite impression, re-write it using expressions of higher connotative value than the *italicized* words.
He *moved* himself quite off his stool in the *expression* of his feelings. Looking at an *ordinary* watch in his pocket he said his mother would be getting *anxious*, for although *poor* she was very *fond* of him. Being at last ready to leave he asked me if I would like to have the light *extinguished*. Then he opened the door and *went out*, and *closed* it, leaving me to *find* my way back into the house; which caused me some *difficulty* and a *fall* over his stool.

2 **15.** (*a*) How can the aim of literary narration be secured?

4 (*b*) Point out the good and bad points in the following student's narrative:
"It was early in the morning and everything in town was unusually silent. The tolling of the fire-bell suddenly pierced the air and scattered its screeching sounds to every end of town. Soon every person was running to the fire or from the fire. It so happened that this dangerous fire was raging near the oil tanks. Men began desperately working to extinguish the fire before it could spread to the oil. They worked all in vain, for a loud explosion told us one of the barrels had burst. The dense black clouds of smoke hung oppressively over the town. A new cloud of smoke arose after every barrel of oil exploded. Sparks flew considerable distances and endangered large nearby buildings. I watched in awe as I saw the tongues of red fire dart far up into the heavens. The picture this fire painted was very striking. Some of the most destructive things can at times be the most beautiful."

30 **16.** Write an essay of not more than *three hundred* words on *one* of the following topics. You may, if you wish, alter the title or take another phase of the subject.

Modern Life offers the Youth of today as great an opportunity for adventure as has any previous age.
Youth Training in Canada.
My Greatest Ambition.
The Future of Aviation.
The European Situation today.
More Armament for Canada.
Jewish Refugee Immigration.
Government Operation of Radio.

100